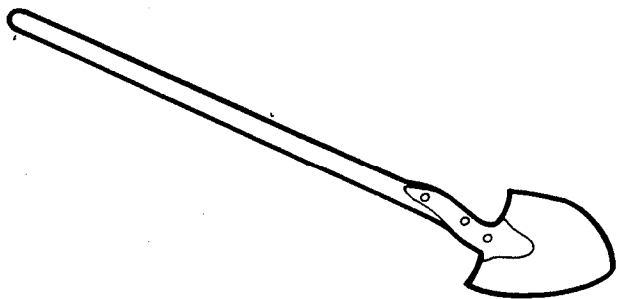


Chapter 51 DIGGING TOOLS

HOW TO CHOOSE AND USE THEM

The “Types and Uses” section provides you with a list of some of the types of digging tools. These pages should help you select the right digging tool to do the job.

The “Using” section tells you how to use digging tools to perform the desired function. The “Care” procedures tell you how to care for the item.



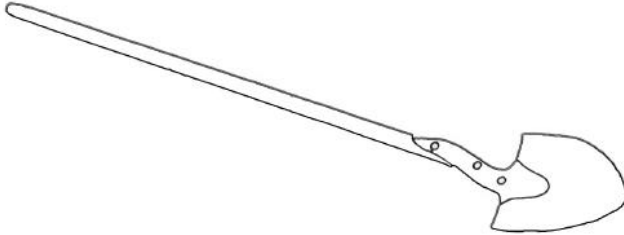
INDEX

<i>Item</i>	<i>Page</i>
TYPES AND USES	51-2
Long-handled shovel	51-2
D-handled shovel	51-2
Spade	51-2
Posthole auger	51-2
Posthole digger	51-2
SAFETY	51-3
USING	51-3
CARE	51-5

TYPES AND USES

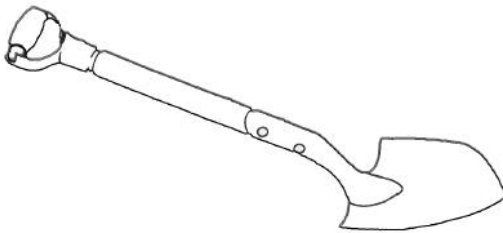
Digging tools are designed for the breaking and digging of soil. Common types of digging tools are the long-handled and D-handled shovel, spade, posthole digger, and auger.

LONG-HANDLED SHOVEL



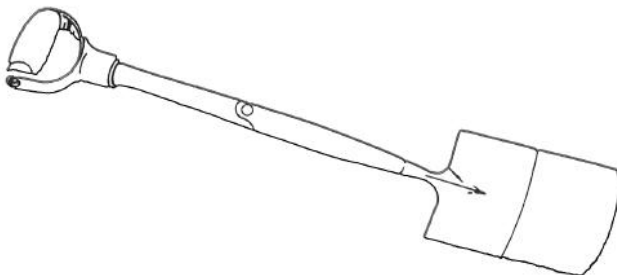
The long-handled shovel consists of a curved, shaped steel blade attached to a long wooden handle. The lower metal edge of the blade is tapered to help it cut into the ground. The long-handled shovel is used for heavy digging, especially when it is necessary to throw or move dirt a substantial distance.

D-HANDLED SHOVEL



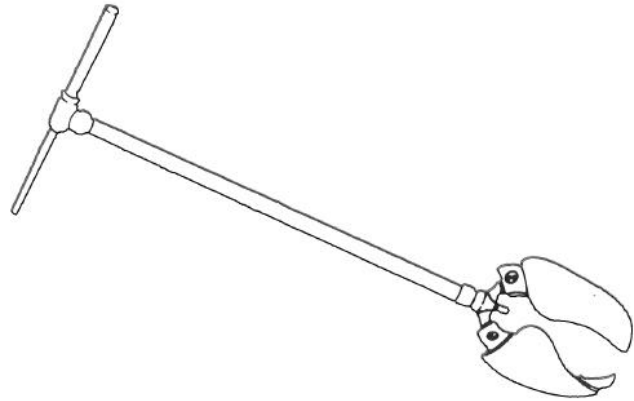
The D-handled shovel resembles the long-handled shovel except that it has a shorter handle with a D-shaped handgrip at the end. The D-handled shovel is used for light work or for digging in cramped, tight places.

SPADE



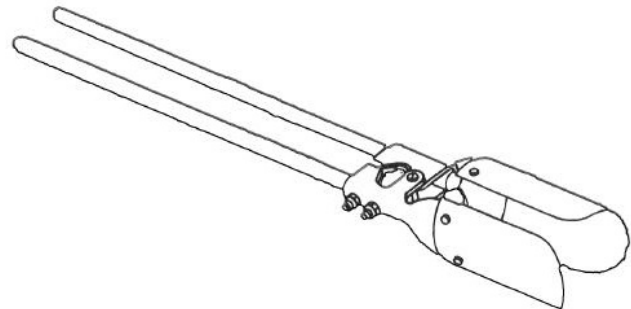
The spade, like the shovel, has a steel blade attached to a wooden handle. The blade may be rounded, pointed or square in shape and the handle may have the D or T-shaped handgrip. The spade is used for heavy digging or in confined areas.

POSTHOLE AUGER



The posthole auger is a long tool made up of a steel shaft that has two shovel-like blades at one end. The blades have curved faces which are hinged to permit slight movement with the concave surfaces of these blades facing each other. The posthole auger is used to bore holes in the ground for posts, poles and explosive charges.

POSTHOLE DIGGER

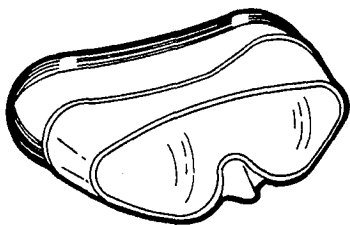


The posthole digger has two concave blades similar to the posthole auger except that each blade is fastened to a long, wooden handle. The blades are hinged at the top so that separating the handles will close them and moving the handles together will open them. Like the auger, the posthole digger is used to bore holes in the ground for posts, explosive charges and similar jobs.

SAFETY

1. Do not use a dull or defective tool.
2. Before swinging a tool, always be sure no one is close enough to be injured.
3. Store tools properly when not in use. Carelessly stored tools can cause injuries.
4. Use tools correctly so that you and everyone in the vicinity is protected from injury.
5. Do not use a tool not designed for the job.

USING THE LONG-HANDLED SHOVEL

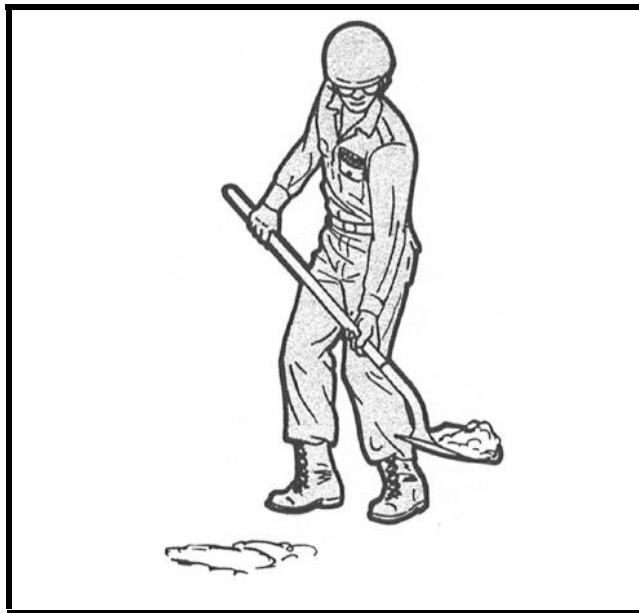


WARNING

WEAR PROPER EYE PROTECTION WHEN WORKING WHERE FLYING PARTICLES MAY CAUSE EYE INJURY.

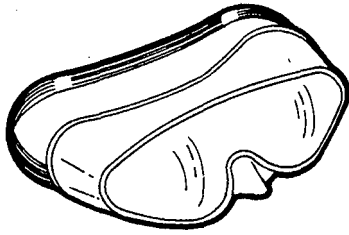


- 1 Hold one hand at the end of the handle, with the other hand a few inches below it.
- 2 Press the blade into the ground. Use the foot on top of the blade for extra force if necessary.
- 3 With shovel embedded in soil, push the handle downward and pull back slightly to break the dirt loose.



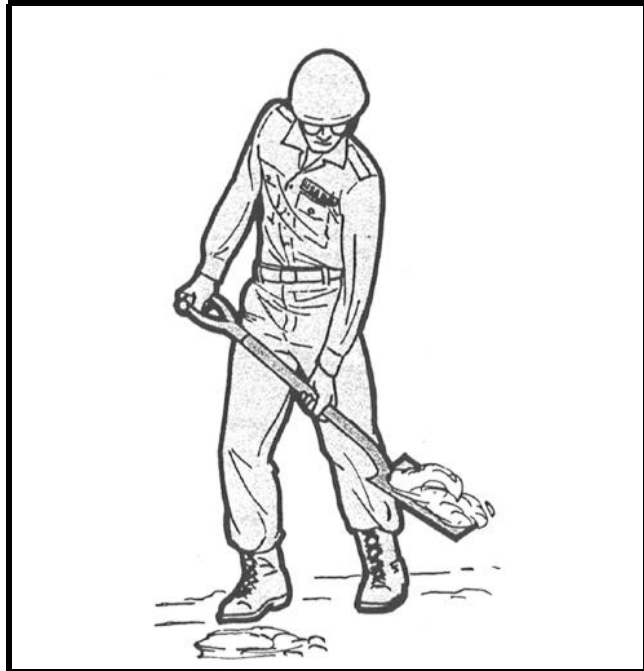
- 4 Slide one hand near enough to the shovel blade to raise the weight of the blade and dirt, holding the handle down with the other hand.

USING THE SPADE

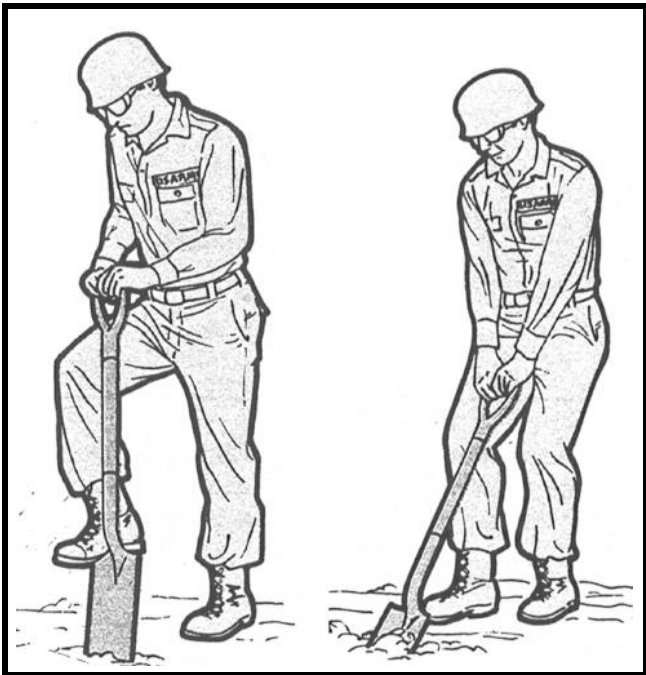


WARNING

WEAR PROPER EYE PROTECTION
WHEN WORKING WHERE FLYING
PARTICLES MAY CAUSE EYE INJURY.

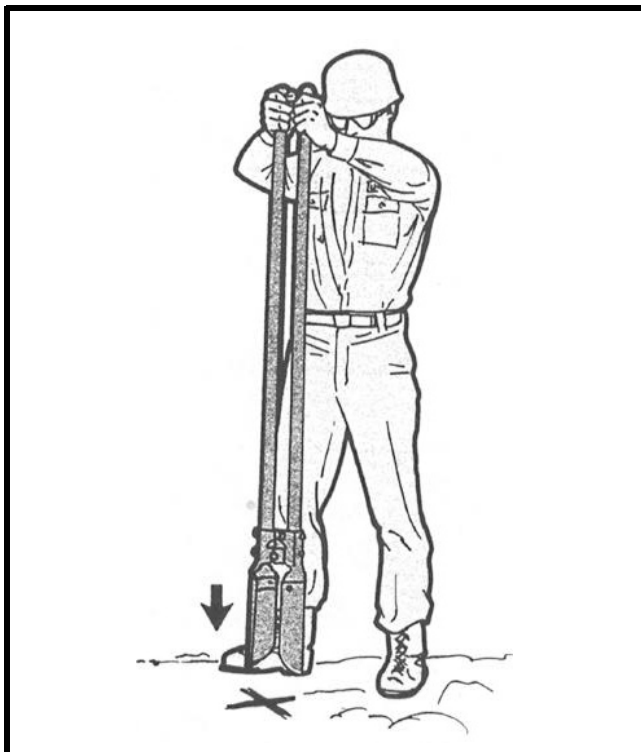


- 3 Slide one hand near enough to the blade to raise the weight of the blade and the dirt.



- 1 Hold the handle upright gripping with both hands and push the blade into the ground with foot.
- 2 With the blade in the ground, push the handle downward and pull back to break the dirt loose.

USING THE POSTHOLE DIGGER



- 1 Drive the posthole digger into the spot where the hole is to be dug.
- 2 Hold the handles slightly separated near the top and bring the blades down sharply into the soil by force of the arms.



- 3 Pull the handles apart to grasp the earth out of the hole and lift digger out of hole.
- 4 Continue the process until the hole is the required size and depth.

CARE AND CLEANING OF DIGGING TOOLS

1. Tools should be cleaned often after each use and metal parts oiled before storing.
2. Never use a tool other than for the job it was intended.
3. Store all digging tools in their proper places when not in use.
4. Replace defective handles immediately.

WARNING

LINSEED OIL IS A FLAMMABLE LIQUID. TO AVOID PERSONAL INJURY, PROPERLY DISPOSE OF ALL CLEANING RAGS IN NON-COMBUSTIBLE CONTAINERS.

5. Treat wooden handles occasionally with linseed oil to prevent drying out or splintering.

